



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

June 18, 1953

Honorable Carl Hayden

United States Senate

Dear Senator Hayden:

In accordance with our telephone conversation this morning concerning the possible future use of Fort Huachuca, I should like to submit the following information.

As you know, Fort Huachuca was announced for inactivation on March 17, 1953, along with Fort Hancock, Highlands, New Jersey; Fort Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan; and Forts Worden and Flagler, near Port Townsend, Washington. In addition, on that date the Army also announced the inactivation of the Transmitter Station at Battery Cove, near Alexandria, Virginia.

Prior to the announced inactivation of these stations, the Department announced on March 5, 1953, that further acquisition of private land and most construction at seven former Army installations which had been started as railhead facilities would be discontinued. These seven installations were Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Little Rock, Arkansas; Camp Swift, Bastrop, Texas; Camp Bowie, Brownwood, Texas; Camp Gruber, Muskogee, Oklahoma; Camp McCain, Grenada, Mississippi; Camp Shelby, located in Forest and Perry Counties, Mississippi, and Camp White, near Medford, Oregon.

Preceding the above announcements the Army announced that Fort Lawton, Seattle, Washington; Camp McCoy, Sparta, Wisconsin; Camp Drum, Watertown, New York; Camp Edwards, Falmouth, Massachusetts, and Camp Cooke, Lompoc, California, would be inactivated.

More recently on April 28, 1953, the Army announced the inactivation of the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation near Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and on June 12, 1953, the proposed inactivation of Camp Breckinridge, Morganfield, Kentucky; Camp Roberts, San Miguel, California; Camp San Luis Obispo, California; Camp Rucker, Daleville, Alabama, and Camp Atterbury, Edinburg, Indiana, was also announced, and that Fort Crockett at Galveston, Texas, and Fort Adams, Newport, Rhode Island, would be declared excess to the present needs of the Army.

Honorable Carl Hayden

June 18, 1953

As may be seen from the above, the Department, as rapidly as possible, is inactivating facilities as a result of the training needs of the Army, to accomplish better management, and effect economies of operation. To attain this end we are striving to utilize all permanent facilities to the maximum possible extent. It is hoped that we may ultimately obtain an 88 per cent utilization of those active facilities.

Concerning the possible use of Fort Huachuca for Signal Corps activities, it should be pointed out that the Signal Corps now has three major installations, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; Camp Gordon, Georgia, and Camp San Luis Obispo, California. As indicated above, San Luis Obispo, California, is to be inactivated. Units now stationed and undergoing training at this facility will be assigned to other posts, camps and stations on the West Coast upon completion of their current training cycle. Cadre personnel may be transferred to Camp Gordon, Georgia. This action, and particularly in view of the reduced training requirement for Signal Corps personnel, no current requirement exists for the establishment of Fort Huachuca for Signal Corps activities. Fort Huachuca will be maintained on a standby basis for possible future use by the Department of the Army and will be utilized for civilian component training as required.

Your deep and continued interest in Fort Huachuca is sincerely appreciated. I trust that the above information will be helpful to you and will enable you to more readily understand the Department's position in regard to this facility.

Sincerely yours,


T. A. YOUNG
Special Assistant